

The End of the Population Explosion?



Ron Brunton is an anthropologist and Head of the Indigenous Issues Unit of the IPA. He has just published

'The End of the Overpopulation Crisis?' as an IPA Backgrounder. The following article appeared as an op-ed piece in the Herald Sun by the author. It presents the major themes contained in his Backgrounder.

If you have been lying awake worrying about the population explosion, you can finally get a good night's sleep. Not only is the 'explosion' fizzing out; predictions that rapid population growth would bring famines, resource shortages and environmental catastrophes have not come true either. And they are unlikely to come true in the future.

For the past two or three decades, birth rates have been tumbling all over the world. In 61 countries the birth rate has declined to a level below what is needed to replace the population.

These countries represent 44 per cent of the world's population, and include virtually every developed nation, as well as almost the whole of eastern Asia. In another 34 countries in Asia and Latin America, birth rates are only a little higher than replacement level and declining rapidly.

Consequently, predictions about the future growth of the world's population keep on coming down. In 1994 the United Nations thought that the

lowest likely figure for the year 2050 would be 7.9 billion, and falling. In 1996, this was revised to 7.7 billion. A few weeks ago the UN released its latest estimate, 7.3 billion.

The UN also predicts that within 25 years populations throughout Europe will begin to decrease, and that by 2050 eastern and southern European nations will be around 20 per cent smaller than they are today.

Nevertheless, 7.3 billion people is still 1.4 billion more than the world's present population. 'How will all these people be fed?' you might ask. After all, even now hundreds of millions of people are not getting enough to eat.

But hunger cannot be blamed on overpopulation. World food production has greatly outpaced population growth since the 1950s. Food is now more abundant and affordable than at any other time in history. Where people go hungry today it is because of corruption, mismanagement, trade barriers, and poverty resulting from inequalities in political power.

The massive gains in food production have come about through improved agricultural yields, rather than through big increases in the amount of land planted with crops. And advances in biotechnology promise to raise yields even further in the future, allowing the return of large areas of farmland to wildlife habitat, even while feeding billions more people.

Of course, the environmental and population activists denounce all this as a 'technological fix'. They favour 'social engineering fixes', despite this century's sorry history of attempts to remodel human beings along the lines the activists would like.

Doomsayers like the American over-

population guru Paul Ehrlich claim that the world has already exceeded its 'carrying capacity'. But while 'carrying capacity' may be useful for arousing anxiety about population, it is not a very helpful scientific concept.

In just a single year, 1994, published scientific estimates of the planet's carrying capacity varied from less than 3 billion people – which means that we are already finished—to 44 billion, or well over seven times the current population.

But one of the best reasons for ignoring the doomsayers is their spectacular record of failed predictions, which shows that they don't understand how the world really works.

Thirty years ago Paul Ehrlich predicted that pesticide-induced cancers would soon cause life expectancy in the United States to plummet to 42 years. (It is now around 76 years.) He also told British biologists, 'If I were a gambler, I would take even money that England

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will not exist in the year 2000'.

Actually, he was a gambler. In 1980 he accepted a wager offered by the economist Julian Simon, who had long ridiculed Ehrlich's predictions that overpopulation would cause terrible global shortages. Simon bet that the real price of any five natural resources of Ehrlich's own choosing would be lower in 1990 than in 1980, because recoverable reserves would continue to outstrip demand. Ehrlich lost badly.

So what was the lesson Ehrlich learnt? Did he stop making his wild predictions? Of course not. He increased his attacks on Simon's supposedly unrealistic and dangerous claims that the world did not face an overpopulation problem.

So when people like Paul Ehrlich and his followers warn that population growth will bring about a catastrophe, perhaps it is really time to have more babies. ■

New IPA Board Member



Elizabeth Proust joined ANZ in January 1998. She is Group General Manager, Corporate Affairs and Human Resources, with responsibilities which include property, HR, media, government and community affairs.

Prior to joining ANZ, Ms Proust was Secretary of the Department of Premier and Cabinet in Victoria. Other positions she has held include CEO of the Melbourne City Council, Secretary of the Attorney-General's Department (Victoria), and Deputy Director-General of the Department of Industry, Technology and Resources. She also spent seven years with BP Australia and BP International Limited.

Ms Proust is Member of Council, The University of Melbourne, Director, Opera Australia, Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, and Councillor, Victorian Division of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Ms Proust holds a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) from La Trobe University and a Bachelor of Law degree from the University of Melbourne.

Major IPA Lectures

Professor Lord Skidelsky to Give Two Lectures in Melbourne

Professor Robert Skidelsky is a renowned economic historian and biographer of John Maynard Keynes. He has written and lectured extensively on post-collectivisation, Thatcherism and the welfare state, and Eastern Europe. He holds the chair of Political Economy at Warwick University in Great Britain. He is Chairman of the Social Market Foundation—one of the UK's most influential think-tanks—and Opposition Front Bench Spokesman for the Treasury.

Professor Skidelsky will be in Melbourne in the first week of May to give two lectures.

In his much acclaimed 1995 book—*The World After Communism*—Lord Skidelsky presented a profound and eloquent analysis of the demise of collectivism and the rise of economic freedom. In these two Melbourne lectures Professor Skidelsky develops some of the further issues arising from the themes of his analysis.

1999 C.D. Kemp Lecture

Is Economic Freedom Sustainable?

The Australian Club
Monday 3 May 7.00pm

Professor Skidelsky claimed that the global pattern of transformation from collectivism to economic freedom is one of the most hopeful events of the Twentieth Century. However, in the last few years, there has been growing disquiet, both in Australia and internationally, over the turmoil in Russia, Asia and Brazil and the persistent unemployment in the West. In this lecture, Lord Skidelsky will address a number of questions, including

- To what extent have national states lost power to the global market?
- Will globalisation force all systems of political economy to converge on the most 'efficient' model and what is it?
- Does the extended market suit the human condition?

A Public Lecture

The Future of Russia
The Shell Theatre
Tuesday 4 May 6.30pm

Lord Skidelsky will revisit his incisive analysis of post-Cold War politics and blueprint for how the West could assert its ideological leadership to assist eastern Europe adjust from the havoc of communism. He will review the events of the last few years in Russia—including the recent traumatic upheavals in its economy and political system—and analyse where things went wrong. He will outline how the West can help Russia re-start the restructuring process towards a modern liberal economy. The lecture should provide food for thought and debate for anyone concerned with the economic and political challenges faced by Russia and Eastern Europe.

Forthcoming IPA Publication

The Changing Fortunes of Economic Liberalism:

Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

by David Henderson
with an Introduction by Lord Lawson

This book began as a talk given in 1997 at the Economic Freedom of the World Conference in Berlin. First published by the Institute of Economic Affairs it has now been republished by the IPA jointly with the New Zealand Business Roundtable.

Professor Henderson looks at the uneasy trend towards increased economic liberalism, and asks whether this trend will continue. He takes a 120-year historical perspective, and considers whether this gives a darker view of the prospects for economic liberalism than might at first have been thought. Ending on a cautionary note, Henderson concludes, 'the fortunes of economic liberalism during the opening decades of the new century remain clouded and in doubt'.

The Media Monitoring Unit: First Project Applauded

The IPA's Media Monitoring Unit's first project, 'Election '98: TV News in the Spotlight,' critically examined TV news coverage of last year's federal election campaign. The Unit's research—which monitors the fairness, accuracy and balance of public affairs news reporting—was well received by both the press and the general public. The study was reported and debated in over 30 newspaper articles and columns and on numerous radio stations. It was the first study of its kind in Australia to scientifically and objectively measure the balance or, more significantly, lack of balance, often apparent in political news coverage.

The Monitoring Unit discovered that TV news reports on Election '98 focused more on the Coalition than Labor and, in most cases, were more critical of the Coalition's policies. The Unit found that *Ten News* provided the most pro-Labor coverage of the four main free-to-air television networks' Melbourne evening newscasts, while *National Nine News* was the most balanced.

Releasing its findings each week throughout the election campaign, there is now a feeling that the Unit's monitoring may have contributed to a dramatic change in the ABC's coverage. Frank Devine, commenting in *The Australian* of 22 February said, '... the switch occurred after several bad hair days for the ABC, during which an interviewer asked nitwit questions of the Prime Minister about the effect of the goods and services tax on heroin sales, Triple J promoted an anti-government pop group campaign sailing under the banner of "Howard's End", and the IPA published the first part of its bias and balance report'.

Until that point, *ABC News* was the most pro-Labor of the four news services. But after that point, a definite change was detected by the Media Unit. For example, although *ABC News* usually gives prominence to industrial relations news, a major union rally in Melbourne during the last

week of the campaign was not a major story on the public broadcaster's evening news. In fact, it received less coverage on *ABC News* than it did on either *Ten News* or *Seven Nightly News*.

Historically, while there have been many complaints of bias levelled at the media in Australia, it has never come under systematic scrutiny through objective research. However, given the importance of the media's role within a democratic system of governance, its ability to report public affairs in a fair and balanced manner is critical. It was for this reason that the IPA established the Media Unit. Gratifyingly, public support for the Unit has been very encouraging. Over 60 individuals have already contributed to the Media Unit's support fund and Mr Kerran Campbell, an IPA board member from Perth, wrote to compliment the Unit, saying, 'This type of research has the potential to change the face of politics in Australia'.

Looking Ahead ... the Next Project

The Media Unit has already forged ahead with a new project. It is taking a retrospective look at the ABC's coverage of last year's waterfront dispute between the Maritime Union of Australia and Patrick Stevedores. At the time, Senator Richard Alston accused the ABC of bias. ABC management duly commissioned Professor Philip Bell, Foundation Chair, Media and Communications Unit of the University of New South Wales, to investigate the claims. Based primarily on a measure of the sources interviewed for the nightly news reports, Professor Bell found that the ABC had not been biased in its handling of the dispute.

Professor Bell's report, however, overlooked a few very important factors. First, journalists provide the vast majority of commentary on television

news reports, but Bell focused his report on the balance of comment between the major players in the dispute. Second, a TV report may 'balance' the sources interviewed, but at the same time present a very biased report overall. That someone's position is being presented on TV does not necessarily mean that the position is being presented in a favourable light. These flaws in Bell's report flowed from a very simplistic notion of balance—namely, equal time given to each side.

The IPA's Media Unit is assessing the same coverage examined by Professor Bell, but is looking at the wide range of issues associated with the dispute. The report will be released some time in March.

Available Now!

TV News in the Spotlight



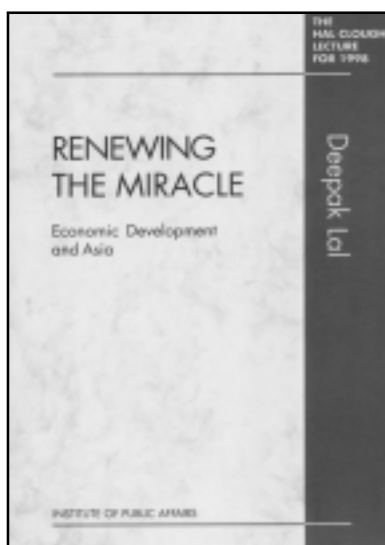
This IPA Backgrounder is available now from the Melbourne office of the IPA for \$10.00

New Publications from the IPA

Renewing the Miracle Economic Development and Asia

by Deepak Lal

This book is derived from the inaugural Harold Clough Lecture, which took place in front of a large audience at The Western Australia Club in Perth last July.



In it, the distinguished Professor of International Development Studies at the University of California, Deepak Lal, looks critically at Asia's great success story in the context of its recent crisis. He looks to explain both the reasons for past Asian success, and for the region's current economic crisis.

This crisis, in part caused by the 'crony capitalism' that was a feature of this so-called 'East Asian' alternative to the Anglo-Saxon model of capitalism, has rightly brought many aspects of this model into question. But the question raised by these 'culturalists' is more general and relates to the sorely neglected but vitally important question of the relationship of culture to development.

Deepak Lal, in this fascinating account, concludes that it is possible to modernize without Westernizing. Rather than pursue Western 'habits of the heart', which are by no means universal, and which include massive welfare transfers and erosion of tra-

ditional morality and social structures, the non-Western world can rightly invoke the ancient biblical injunction: 'Physician heal thyself'.

Available from the IPA for \$12.95.

Media Regulation in Australia and the Public Interest

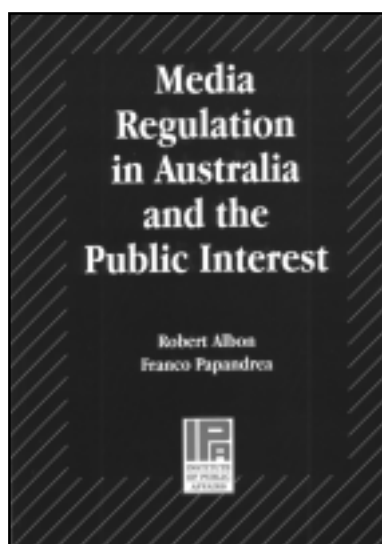
by Dr Robert Albon and
Dr Franco Papandrea

Successive Australian governments have been unwilling to let the market in the media industry work. Instead, claiming a host of 'imperfections', 'failures' and 'social responsibilities', they have imposed a maze of special regulations controlling entry, ownership and content.

The two authors demonstrate that many of these regulations have been contrary to the public interest, resulting in too few services, delayed introduction of new technologies, and greater concentration of media ownership.

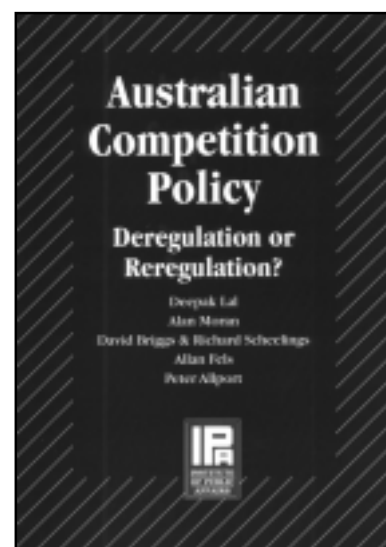
While the regulatory structure has improved in recent years, it remains poorly placed to handle the challenges presented by new and converging technologies.

Robert Albon and Franco Papandrea argue that a less interventionist approach—including the removal of cross-media rules and restriction on foreign ownership—would better



serve the public interest.

Obtainable from the IPA for \$12.95.



Australian Competition Policy Deregulation or Reregulation?

by Deepak Lal, Alan Moran,
David Briggs & Richard
Scheelings, Allan Fels,
Peter Allport

Microeconomic reform in Australia has typically promoted competition by withdrawing government regulation. In contrast, current competition policy introduces new regulations, especially over infrastructure facilities that are thought to constitute natural monopolies.

This IPA Current Issues has collected the papers based on the IPA's inaugural deregulation conference held in Melbourne on 24 July 1998, some criticising, some defending.

If Dr Moran and the other three critics of Australian trade practices policy at this conference are correct, it threatens microeconomic reform by undermining, rather than liberating, the sources of wealth creation. This collection carries the debate to the frontier of knowledge and analysis of the subject.

Available from the IPA for \$12.95.

intouch EVENTS

The IPA's Energy Forum continues with its regular meetings in which speakers are invited to talk on particular issues of concern to its members. It comprises leading firms in the electricity and gas supply industry who share a common view that privatisation and a minimal level of regulation will best serve the community. On October 27 Tony Cook, CEO of TransEnergy, a subsidiary of Quebec Hydro gave a presentation on the use of new technologies for increasing electricity transmission capacity. This was followed on November 12 by a presentation by the head of the Privatisation Task Force for South Australia, Race Spitsley.

November 11 Kate Morrison gave an IPA Dialogue on 'Media Bias: The Art and Science of Content Analysis', which summarised the major findings from the IPA's Election '98 study of prime time TV news. The Dialogue attracted wide interest, and was well attended by media academics and journalists. At the meeting a certain irony became apparent. In the past, media studies have been criticised for being subjective. This time, when the study under question was completely objective, the criticisms from the floor were focused on the fact that it didn't monitor such things as visuals, which by their very nature, would have to be subjective.

November 17 Mike Nahan took part in a debate on the meaning and meanderings of the 'Third Way' at the University of Melbourne. The panel included Mark Latham, MHR, Fred Argy, former head of EPAC, and Professor Dawkins of the Melbourne Institute. Mike pointed out that one glaring difference between the Third Ways being pursued overseas and those being promoted in Australia is the labour market. The local versions envisage the re-regulation of the labour market and an expansion in union power, whereas Mr Blair and Mr Clinton no longer see themselves as defenders of organised labour and have come to terms with a flexible, decentralised labour market.

December 1 The IPA hosted a luncheon at which Professor Mark Skousen, a United States investment adviser and

market commentator, gave a provocative talk on investment strategies. He is considered a 'maverick' and at the luncheon displayed his legendary contrarian and optimistic views on the world financial scene. The audience was as mixed as were the reactions to the Professor's remarks.

December 2 Kate Morrison was a part of a panel discussion organised by the Public Relations Institute of Australia on the topic 'Has the media lost its way? The relationship between owners, editors and news'. The panellists included Terry McCrann, Associate Editor Business of the *Herald Sun*, John Fitzgerald, Executive Director of Javelin Australia, and Mike Smith, chief General Manager of PPR Shandwick. Each gave a short presentation. Kate talked around the question of whether there was a discernible bias in political news reporting, and if there were, whether this bias could be measured. Armed with her recent experience heading the IPA's Media Monitoring Unit, she contributed to a lively discussion.

December 3 Professor Allan Fels, chairman of the ACCC, launched the IPA's latest book, *Media Regulation in Australia and the Public Interest*, written by Dr Robert Albon, Media Specialist and Director of the Centre for Applied Economics, at ANU, and Dr Franco Papandrea, Communications Researcher and Policy Analyst. The book was launched in the Senate President's Courtyard, Parliament House, Canberra. Professor Fels gave an eloquent presentation to the large turnout of guests. He was followed by the two authors, who outlined their claims that many of our media regulations are contrary to the public interest, resulting in too few services, delayed introduction of new technologies and concentration of media ownership.

December 4 Ron Brunton took part in a panel discussion on Val Bichard's SBS National Radio programme on the controversial issues of reconciliation and an apology to the 'stolen generations'. Presumably Ron is invited to contribute when the media requires a semblance of balance in its programmes.

December 17 Dan Fessler, partner with Leboeuf, Lamb, Greene & Macrae, and former President of the California Public Utilities Commission, gave an IPA Dialogue on how reform and regulation in the US electricity and gas industries could serve as a lesson for Australia. In particular, he focused on the outcome of reforms already implemented in California, the role of regulators in the deregulated industries, the issues of 'contract' versus 'market' carriage of gas and electricity, and price-setting in residual monopoly areas.

February 22 Mike Nahan gave a talk on 'Business Taxation—a Radical Option' to a group of the Institute's supporters in Perth. He argued that the time was right for radical reform which would eliminate the existing bias against savings and investment in the tax system. What he advocated was a shift away from the existing income tax system to an expenditure tax.

February 24 Alan Moran was a guest speaker in Melbourne at the Second Annual Conference on the Reliability and Quality of Power Supply. It focused on notions of securing an optimal supply of electricity and gas. His topic was By-pass Competition in Electricity and Gas. The conference, like the one last year, provided both producers and industry consumers with much needed up-to-date and relevant information.

February 25 Alan was again a guest speaker, this time in Surfers Paradise at the National Summit on Power Generation, whose role is to provide information solutions to the Australian power and energy industry. The National Power Forum identifies emerging market trends in the industry. Alan spoke on the question of whether coal can continue as the primary power generation source in Australia. He asserted that coal has an assured future in power generation at close to its existing market share of around 70 per cent. Two other papers delivered at the conference were given by IPA Energy Forum members, Stephen Orr of Hazelwood Power, and Bob Scott of Texas Utilities.

FREEDOM! FREEDOM!

According to the great moral philosopher Adam Smith, the key to prosperity is freedom—economic freedom. Mike Nahan reviewed the recently published *Economic Freedom of the World Report 1998* for the *Australian Financial Review*. The report is published by the Fraser Institute with the assistance of the Institute of Public Affairs and 53 other similar organisation from around the world. The question of course is why some countries prosper and grow rich while others do not. The report rated the performance of 119 countries. Australia comes out in eighth place. It shines in terms of having the most open currency markets, the least controls on interest rates, low government ownership of banks and the best legal structure and property rights measured in terms of the risks of expropriation and contract violations. The report shows a robust positive relationship between the change in economic freedom and the growth of GDP. As Mike points out, many people remain unconvinced. In the last federal election more than 60 per cent of the electorate voted for parties which promised to reduce economic freedom in the belief that that would bring prosperity. He adds that the critics are also concerned that freedom brings with it greater social inequities. But the report demonstrates a strong, positive relationship between the level of economic freedom and the share of benefits flowing to low income groups. In other words, economic freedom tends to empower the poor.

THE WOOD FOR THE TREES

Such was the vilification and panic coming from our media over the Pauline Hanson phenomenon that it took calmer, more astute minds to make the obvious link between One Nation policies and those of the Greens and the Australian Democrats, and by extension, much of the Labor Left. Lyndon Rowe, author of the IPA backgrounder *Odd Bedfellows: The Economic Nationalists and Why They Are Wrong* pointed out in

the *Australian Financial Review* that both One Nation and the Australian Democrats described their economic policy approach as 'economic nationalism'. Their policies, particularly in immigration and economic issues are so similar as to be virtually indistinguishable. In a word, everything 'foreign' is bad, explains Rowe. Foreign goods, foreign capital, foreign ownership of assets, foreign culture and net migration of foreigners—these are all undesirable in the lexicon of economic nationalism.

Whilst at first appearing to be odd bedfellows, these groups all have in common a shared distrust of markets and an unashamed faith in Big Government.

WARBLING IN THE MEDIA

Chipping away at the silliness that passes for debate in the daily media, Michael Warby has taken to letter-writing, projecting into the broader public arena the balanced and well-reasoned views of the IPA. In *The Age* on 4 December he took John Quiggin to task for his magic pudding approach to privatisation, and the idea that Telstra, due to low discount rates, had more value in public hands than private hands. As Michael comments, 'On that argument, the Government should buy BHP, CSR, PBL, etc—because, hey presto, the value would go up!' Quiggin went on to accuse the IPA of seeking to control public debate. That a publicly-funded academic accuses a small, privately-funded think-tank in this manner is equally mendacious.

YOR TA GIVE 'EM MORE LAND

On the serious business of native land claims, Ron Brunton, writing in his regular column for the *Courier Mail* from the Sunshine Coast, tells us the Yorta Yorta land claim case was dismissed on the basis that there had been no continuous connection with land. Justice Olney cited an 1881 petition in which ancestors of the present claimants said they had lost possession of all the land within their tribal boundaries and that they

wished to change their old mode of life. In the 1930s Yorta Yorta leaders were denouncing Australians who wanted to prevent them from adopting 'the culture of the white man'. They argued that the only aspects of traditional culture that should be retained were items such as corroborees, but only if they were treated in the same way that Europeans treated their old folk dances.

BIG SPENDERS

Why are Australian consumers spending like mad, asks Mike Nahan in his regular spot in the *Herald Sun*. As he observes, over the past year consumer spending grew by more than 6 per cent. The answer appears to be that many of us feel wealthier. Over this decade, Australians have taken a plunge on the share market and this has paid off—often in a big way. In total, about \$40 billion has been injected into household balance sheets in the past 18 months. This has translated into higher consumer confidence and spending. Apart from the indirect threat to our share market of the US high-tech bubble bursting, Australia's share-driven wealth effect is sustainable.

SELLING AUSTRALIA SHORT

Michael Warby argues in *The West Australian* that the tightly regulated Australian media need the reins loosened. He says that we regulate media—it is alleged—to restrict foreign ownership and encourage diversity. Yet we have media which are substantially foreign-owned with the most concentrated ownership in the Western world. Michael claims that the history of media regulation in this country is a sad saga of timid delays, privileged access and selling Australians short. There is already a mechanism to stop excessive market concentration—the *Trade Practices Act*. It is time to place media regulation under the same set of general rules as everyone else, so Australians can make their own decisions from as wide a set of choices as practicable.

IPA Media Activities

Not all the media activities in which our staff engage can be featured in our 'Media Highlights' section, so here is a list of those activities for the months of October to February.

- 1.10.98 *ABC Radio*, Gas, Alan Moran interviewed
- 3.10.98 *ABC Radio*, Perth, Election Comment, John Hyde (with Peter Walsh)
- 4.10.98 *Radio 2UE*, Sydney, Media Monitoring Unit, Owen Delaney interviews Mike Nahan
- 4.10.98 *SMH*, How the leaders played the media, mentioned by Peter Cox
- 5.10.98 *Radio National*, Sandy McCutcheon, Privatisation, Alan Moran
- 5.10.98 *ABC Radio*, Perth, John Hyde Debates ... (with Peter Walsh)
- 5.10.98 *AFR*, Howard won because he read the electorate correctly, by David Barnett. Media Monitoring Project mentioned.
- 7.10.98 *Adelaide Review*, Compulsory Voting, by Gary Johns
- 7.10.98 *Adelaide Review*, The Compensation Society, by Gary Johns
- 7.10.98 *Herald Sun*, Way to fix the Senate, by Gary Johns
- 8.10.98 *ABC Radio*, Canberra, Privatisation discussion with Alan Moran
- 8.10.98 *The Australian*, Don't forget gas rivals in pipeline, by Alan Moran
- 8.10.98 *ABC Radio 3LO*, Drivetime, Mike Nahan interviewed by Terry Laidler
- 10.10.98 *Herald Sun*, AIRC key to Kim's target, by Mike Nahan
- 10.10.98 *Courier Mail*, Howard must offer a vision of hope, by Ron Brunton
- Oct. 98 *Adelaide Review*, A strategic retreat to help the poor and the Left, by Gary Johns
- 13.10.98 *SMH*. Be grateful for small mercies, by Gary Johns
- 14.10.98 97.4FM, *Prodos Connection*, Giving IRC a target of full employment, discussion with Michael Warby
- 15.10.98 *Courier Mail*, The nature of political corruption, by John Hyde
- 16.10.98 *The Australian*, Instead of selloff, why not give Telstra away?, by Alan Moran
- 18.10.98 *Herald Sun*, City begging: the question of poverty, Mike Nahan quoted
- 19.10.98 *BRW*, It's reform that needs intervention, Robert Skeffington article, IPA mentioned
- 20.10.98 *ABC Radio 3LO*, Drivetime, Mike Nahan interviewed by Terry Laidler re lowering high roller tax at Crown
- 22.10.98 *The West Australian*, Inquiry told bush safe, IPA submission mentioned
- 22.10.98 *The West Australian*, Migration: a matter of survival, by Frank Lindsey, *IPA Review* article mentioned
- 24.10.98 *Herald Sun*, Telstra sale would solve bush woes, by Mike Nahan
- 24.10.98 *Courier Mail*, Tied to past by issue of identity, by Ron Brunton
- 29.10.98 *The Australian*, One culture, accepting and confident, should fit all, by Michael James (Precis of *IPA Review* article)
- 31.10.98 *News Weekly*, Who watches the media, by Michael Warby
- 31.10.98 *SMH*, Push to curb wages, by Paul Cleary, Mike Nahan quoted.
- 3.11.98 *The Australian*, Preselection by voting diminishes value of parties, Gary Johns
- 2.11.98 *ABC TV*, *Media Watch*, Media monitoring unit findings for weeks 2 and 3 of election campaign mentioned
- 4.11.98 *AFR*, Prospering from freedom's riches, by Mike Nahan
- 5.11.98 *The West Australian*, Property rights missing in gloss, by John Hyde
- 5.11.98 *ABC Radio 3LO*, Drivetime, Mike Nahan interviewed by Terry Laidler
- 7.11.98 *Courier Mail*, Casualties of truth, by Ron Brunton
- 7.11.98 *Herald Sun*, Jeff rides high on reform, by Mike Nahan
- 9.11.98 *Radio National* Sandy McCutcheon, Welfare reform and corporate philanthropy, by Mike Nahan
- 9.11.98 *ABC Radio*, Perth, John Hyde Debates ... (Mr Howard and the Senate)
- 10.11.98 *The Australian*, Make ACCC show a proposed merger is harmful, by Alan Moran
- 11.11.98 *AFR*, No policy is best policy, letter by Alan Moran
- 19.11.98 *ABC Radio 3LO*, Drivetime, Mike Nahan interviewed by Terry Laidler about increases in infrastructure spending
- 19.11.98 *SBS Insight*, The third way, Gary Johns discussion with Mark Latham
- 21.11.98 *Herald Sun*, Australia finds activity wards off Australian plague, by Mike Nahan
- 25.11.98 *Herald Sun*, Stumbling bloc, by Gary Johns
- 26.11.98 *AFR*, Quiggin wrong over ►

DIARY notes

3 May Professor Skidelsky will be visiting Australia to give the second C.D. Kemp Lecture in Melbourne on Monday 3 May. The lecture will be held at The Australian Club and is entitled: *Is Economic Freedom Sustainable?*

4 May Lord Skidelsky will be giving a second Melbourne lecture on Tuesday evening, 4 May, on the topic *The Future of Russia*. The lecture will be held in The Shell Theatre.

For details of times, locations and bookings, please contact Joanna Ingram in the Melbourne office on (03) 9600 4744

Media Highlights

(continued from page 7)

foodless GST, letter from Michael Warby

27.11.98 *The Age*, Why we should have more casinos and gaming machines, by Alan Moran

2.12.98 *The Australian*, Storage outearns uranium mining, by Alan Moran

3.12.98 *3AK*, Robert Hicks, Media Regulation, interview with Robert Albon

3.12.98 *5DN*, Derryn Hinch, Media Regulation, interview with Robert Albon

3.12.98 *AFR*, It could be a food fight, by John Quiggin

4.12.98 *Daily Telegraph*, Media regulation book, write up

4.12.98 *AFR*, Media laws a house of cards, re Media regulation book launch

4.12.98 *The Age*, Quiggin is off the mark again, letter from Michael Warby

4.12.98 *Courier Mail*, Media ownership limits attacked by law authors, by Kate Hannon

4.12.98 *SBS National Radio*, Val Bichard's Program, Panel discussion on reconciliation and apology to stolen generations, with Ron Brunton

5.12.98 *Courier Mail*, Defusing the population explosion, by Ron Brunton

5.12.98 *Herald Sun*, Billion dollar case for storing nuclear waste, by Mike Nahan

5.12.98 *ABC Radio/TV* discussion of Mike Nahan's *Herald Sun* article 'Billion dollar case for storing nuclear waste'

8.12.98 *Radio National*, Australia talks back, Aborigines in War Memorial, debate with Ron Brunton & Henry Reynolds

9.12.98 *The West Australian*, N-waste 'as good as gold' by Nick Miller, Mike Nahan quoted.

9.12.98 *The West Australian*, Opportunity too good to waste, by Mike Nahan

9.12.98 *ABC Radio*, Alan Moran with Terry Laidler

12.12.98 *Courier Mail*, Politics without consent, by Gary Johns

12.12.98 *The West Australian*, Media regulators currently sell Australians short, by Michael Warby.

15.12.98 *Canberra Times*, Survey finds TV agenda setters fail to sway voters, by Ian Warden (regarding Media Monitoring Unit)

17.12.98 *Courier Mail*, Media regulation book, by Michael Duffy

17.12.98 *Canberra Times*, Media regulation article, by Michael Warby

17.12.98 *ABC Radio 3LO*, Drivetime, Mike Nahan interviewed by Terry Laidler re US attack on Iraq

18.12.98 *The Advertiser*, Considerable benefits in privatisation, letter from Alan Moran

19.12.98 *Herald Sun*, The real reasons why phone call costs will fall, by Mike Nahan

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